

ARBITRATION

Convention signed at Washington April 4, 1908
Senate advice and consent to ratification April 17, 1908
Ratified by Norway May 23, 1908
Ratified by the President of the United States June 18, 1908
Ratifications exchanged at Washington June 24, 1908
Entered into force June 24, 1908
Proclaimed by the President of the United States June 29, 1908
Extended by agreements of June 16, 1913;¹ March 30, 1918;² and
November 26, 1923³
Expired June 24, 1928

35 Stat. 1994; Treaty Series 499

The President of the United States of America and His Majesty the King of Norway desiring in pursuance of the principles set forth in articles 15–19 of the Convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes, signed at The Hague July 29, 1899,⁴ to enter into negotiations for the conclusion of an Arbitration Convention, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

The President of the United States of America, Elihu Root, Secretary of State of the United States of America; and

His Majesty the King of Norway: O. Skybak, His Chargé d’Affaires at Washington;

who, after having communicated to one another their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I

Differences which may arise of a legal nature or relating to the interpretation of treaties existing between the two Contracting Parties and which it may not have been possible to settle by diplomacy, shall be referred to the Permanent Court of Arbitration established at The Hague by the Convention

¹ TS 589, *post*, p. 454.

² TS 632, *post*, p. 461.

³ TS 680, *post*, p. 470.

⁴ TS 392, *ante*, vol. 1, p. 230.

of July 29, 1899, provided, nevertheless, that they do not affect the vital interests, the independence, or the honor of the two Contracting States, and do not concern the interests of third Parties.

ARTICLE II

In each individual case the High Contracting Parties, before appealing to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, shall conclude a special Agreement defining clearly the matter in dispute, the scope of the powers of the Arbitrators, and the periods to be fixed for the formation of the Arbitral Tribunal and the several stages of the procedure. It is understood that on the part of the United States such special agreements will be made by the President of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof.

ARTICLE III

The present Convention shall be ratified by the President of the United States of America by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof; and by His Majesty the King of Norway. The ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington as soon as possible, and the Convention shall take effect on the date of the exchange of its ratifications.

ARTICLE IV

The present Convention is concluded for a period of five years, dating from the day of the exchange of its ratifications.

Done in duplicate at the City of Washington, in the English and Norwegian languages this 4th day of April in the year 1908.

ELIHU ROOT [SEAL]

O. SKYBAK [SEAL]